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RYU.026

surfaces of the pinch rollers is changed as a consumable so that the productivity in the elongating process can be improved and the power consumption can be reduced.

0021
Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

LC
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0021
[0022] FIGS. 2A ~~[[is]]~~ and 2B are ~~[[an]]~~ enlarged schematic sectional view of the pinch roller cut along the line A-A indicated in FIG. 1.

0028
Please replace paragraph [0029] with the following amended paragraph:

0028
[0029] The pinch rollers 6 are jointed with an untapered shaft 8 having a reference edge face, pressed and fixed against the reference edge face 9 of the untapered shaft 8, rotated and driven by a drive unit via the untapered shaft 8. Referring to FIG. 2A, the pair of the pinch rollers 6 and 6 respectively has a concave roller groove 11 and 11 on the facing surfaces of the pair of the pinch rollers 6 and 6 so that the base material rod 7 is grasped stably and firmly. The grooves are such as roller grooves having a larger curvature radius than the outer diameter of the base material rod, or V-shaped roller grooves 11a (FIG. 2B) having the cross section consisting of straight lines. The base material rod 7 is grasped in the center of the facing roller grooves 11 with desired position accuracy, and drawn.

0029
Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0007] with the following amended paragraph:

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[0007] It is difficult to cut grooves in the pinch rollers made of nonmetal such as compressed ceramic fibers. Even if the pinch rollers have fine grooves, because of the above reason, the positions of grooves cannot be fixed. ~~As the next best thing~~ Alternatively, the groove automatically generated on the surface of the pinch roller by burnout of a high-temperature base material rod is used. Until the definite groove is formed, the base material rod ~~doesn't~~ does not have a fixed position in between the pinch rollers, which causes that the drawing position is deviated to make the base material rod curved.

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following amended paragraph:

[0015] The above description of the present invention ~~doesn't~~ does not cite all the features of the present invention. The sub-combinations of these features may also be inventions.

Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following amended paragraph:

[0018] (ii) The pinch rollers drawing the base material rod are made of metal and the surfaces thereof are winded heat-resistant fabric, instead of being made of compressed ceramic fiber so that the pinch rollers can prevent from burnout and deformation due to the high-temperature base material rod. The pinch rollers, which had to be changed to new ones in relatively short period, ~~don't~~ do not have to be changed, and only the heat-resistant fabric winded around the

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[0030] The surfaces of the roller grooves 11 are covered with heat-resistant fabric winded and fixed by mechanical means such as screws or bands around the surfaces of the rollers so that the base material rod 7 and the pinch rollers 6 don't contact directly with each other, resulting in no damage on the surface of the base material rod 7. See FIGS. 2A and 2B. The heat-resistant fabric is thin enough not to reduce the profile accuracy of the roller grooves. The drive unit 10 is set on such as a positioning table having two axial directions X and Y. The groove center of the facing roller grooves 11 and 11 of the pair of pinch rollers 6 and 6 is fitted in the central axis of the base material ingot passing through the middle of the heater 5 by a positioning table 12.

0030
Please replace paragraph [0031] with the following amended paragraph:

0030
[0031] FIGS. 2A and 2B are is an enlarged schematic sectional view of the pinch roller cut along the line A-A shown in FIG. 1.

0033
Please replace paragraph [0034] with the following amended paragraph:

0033
[0034] The mounting part 2 for the base material ingot is set with position adjustability in two perpendicular axial directions in a level plane. The position of the mounting part 2 is adjusted so that the vertical line 17 hanging from the mounting part 2 and having a plum bob [[17]] at the end of the line runs parallel to the traveling direction of the base material ingot and passes right through the center of a small aperture formed on the center of a jig 18 indicating the center of the heater 5.